

June 30p 1954

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Dear Larry:

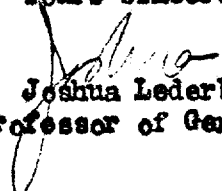
Good luck to you as you get back to science.

Although the evidence is not all in yet, I am becoming more and more convinced that the On effect is one of spontaneous mutation and selection. Miss Byers has done some small inoculum experiments, and these have succeeded only under conditions that allowed quite appreciable multiplication of the inoculum before small colony formers began to predominate. I know she would be greatly indebted to you for more detailed information on just how you did the "15 tube experiment", but I have suggested that she make direct contact with you. She will doubtless write to you within the next week or two.

Any chance of your visiting here? I am sure a lot of loose ends could be cleared up quite quickly. We will be leaving Madison ourselves in about three weeks, but will spend August at Woods Hole-- perhaps you had some intention of passing through there yourself? But as Miss Byers has been doing all the work on this problem since last summer, she would have much more to say about it than I could.

I am sending you cultures WY-6, a normal diploid (Red Star Yeast) and WY-8, a non-oxidative mutant obtained from it by the use of acriflavine (by S.D. Rubbo while he was here last Spring). I think a comparison of their RNA and DNA should be quite interesting. Both strains will grow quite well (WY-6 better than WY-8 of course) on a medium consisting of Difco Yeast Extract, 1%; KH_2PO_4 (sic) 0.1%; Sucrose, 5%. If needed, add 2% agar.

Yours sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics